



Prescribed Fire NOTIFICATION

US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR ■ BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
ALBUQUERQUE DISTRICT OFFICE ■ 435 MONTANO NE ■ ALBUQUERQUE NM 87107

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For Immediate Release

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For Additional Information

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Prescribed Burn Planned for McKinley and Sandoval Counties

Beginning **August 30, 2005 through November 15, 2005** the BLM's Rio Puerco Field Office will conduct a prescribed burn that includes approximately 1,850 acres of ponderosa pine.

The **Seco and Medio Tank Prescribed Fires** are within the Ignacio Chavez Wilderness Study Area. The area known as Mesa Chivato is west of Highway 550 and is located approximately 15 miles southwest of San Luis, NM in **Township 15N, Range 5W, Section 11, 12, 13, and 14**. Historic uses and active fire suppression have interrupted the natural fire regime in this fire dependent ecosystem. This has resulted in hazardous fuel accumulations and increased stand densities, which contribute to the decline of wildlife habitat and the potential of catastrophic wildfire.

The goal of this project is to employ management ignited prescribed fire to reduce stand densities, ladder fuels, and hazardous fuel loadings that under the right conditions could contribute to high intensity crown fire.

Prescribed fire in progress signs will be posted along BLM Road 1103 during the days of the burn and the smoke may be visible from Highway 550.

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EDITORS NOTE: Hunting season starts on September 1 and this timeframe would overlap with our prescribed fire. We want to get the word out to hunters, in particular, that the smoke they may see is a prescribed fire.

